

**Carlisle Council on Aging Board Meeting  
Carlisle Town Hall – Clark Room  
March 15, 2016**

**Board Members Present:** Verna Gilbert, Kathy DeVivo-Ash, Jean Sain, Peggy Hilton, Gio DiNicola, Walter Hickman, Donna McMullan. **Associate Members Present:** Maxine Crowther, Jerome Lerman.  
**COA Staff Present:** David Klein, Angela Smith.

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by Verna Gilbert, Chair.

**Secretary Minutes:** A motion was made by Donna McMullan to accept the February 16, 2016 minutes submitted by Kathy DeVivo-Ash. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote.

**Introductions:** Verna Gilbert introduced Peter Cullinane, part-time COA social worker, Nancy West from the Friends of the COA, and John Ballantine who is considering joining the COA as an associate member.

**Outreach and Program Manager Report:** A motion was made by Walter Hickman to accept the March report submitted by Angela Smith. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote. Angela reported that she still needs help with Community Conversations. There was discussion about why it is so difficult to get help. David Klein commented that he is looking for funds to pay for a part-time program assistant who could help in this area. Angela thanked everyone who has signed up for the monthly coffee and distributed a sign-up sheet for the remaining dates.

**Social Worker Report:** Peter Cullinane submitted his reports for January and February, and provided a brief update on two cases he is working on. One senior is hopefully moving into Village Court on April 1 and the other is still in need of full-time assistance in his home.

**Financial Report and Director's Report:** A motion was made by Donna MacMullan to accept the March reports submitted by David Klein. The motion was seconded by Jean Sain.

David reported that we are in good shape financially so far this year. We have expended about 60-65% of the general fund. Most of the Community Chest grant has been expended and we are about 60% through the State grant. There was a large expense for food gift certificates that came out of the Friends' grant. David commented that the report actually goes through March 5 rather than the end of February due to town accounting practices so we are actually a week into the next reporting period. Walter Hickman said there were no discrepancies.

The Director's Report will cover calendar monthly activities rather than coinciding with the dates of the board meeting. Meetings and information, however, will be as up-to-date as possible. There was some discussion about Benfield Farms and a correction to the date used in that section of the report was made, changing March 25 to February 25. Comparative statistics on transportation were included and it was agreed that the information is very useful. There was discussion about Bedford COA's request to rent one of our vans and a suggestion was made that we might co-sponsor some programs rather than getting into renting our vehicles. David provided an update on the MCOA Advisory Council Meeting which included the following highlights:

- The Formula Grant was increased from \$8/senior to \$9/senior with a goal of getting to \$12/senior by 2020. The formula used in the grant is the number of seniors x rate/senior. David explained that the rationale for interim increases is based on the fact that the number of seniors is set at the prior Federal census (which are 10 years apart) so, as the older adult population increases, every year our funding falls behind, and will so until 2021, the year after the next census.
- David reported that Denise Garlick - Chair, Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, spoke eloquently about the numbers that make up the entirety of money allocated to elder care through the state. We're hoping to get the actual presentation slides, but the round figures that included almost all (an estimated 99.8%) of the \$13.5 billion total spent annually on older adults goes to MassHealth, which pays a tremendous amount for institutional care. The close to \$280 million or so that goes to programs other than MassHealth breaks down as follows from the past year:

- i. 13.45 million to COAs for the Formula Grant spread among 351 municipalities
  - ii. 18.5 million goes to the Prescription Advantage program
  - iii. 7.1 million goes to Nutrition programs (matched by Federal dollars)
  - iv. 7.65 million goes to senior supportive housing
  - v. 208.5 million goes to elder homecare...by and large to the most frail and poor
  - vi. 23.2 million goes to Protective Services
- Uber has created a program called Uber Access for the disabled community to encourage people with disabled cars to participate. A training program for people who will assist the elderly or disabled is called Uber Assist. There was discussion about how Uber drivers are vetted. David commented that the COA might be able to use Uber as centralized payment from 3<sup>rd</sup> parties can now be set up.

**Minuteman Senior Services Report:** Jean Sain attended the Minuteman Senior Services Board Meeting on March 2, 2016 and gave the following update:

The Transition Committee on Executor Director recruitment is continuing. There have been 40 resumes received and the search has been narrowed to 6 or 7 very qualified applicants. Beth Ajalat, Care Transitions Coordinator, spoke to the Board on transitioning from hospital to home and continuing care. There was also discussion on MFP (Money Follows the Person) which is a Federal demonstration project that assists elders and people with disabilities who want to move from facility-based care to the community.

The Mass Home Care Lobby Day was held on February 29. Our Lobby Team of staff and Board members joined advocates from across the state to rally at the State House in support of getting adequate resources for our home care programs and others that enable older people to age independently at home.

Free Healthy Living Programs are available, but pre-registration is required. These programs can be checked out on Minuteman's website. The March for Meals is ongoing. "Celebrities" and legislators are being recruited to ride along on a Meals On Wheels route. Jeff Bauman may again volunteer to deliver meals in Carlisle.

**Friends Report:** Nancy West reported that they are in the middle of their nominating process. The annual meeting will be held on May 15th at 3PM at Benfield Farms, and invited the board to attend. The focus will be the "Art of the Family Memoir." She commented that fundraising is going well.

#### **Old/New Business:**

##### **• Committee Updates:**

**Space:** Jerry Lerman reported that the next Space meeting will be on March 21 and that a trip to facilities in Acton Westford and Littleton is scheduled for March 22.

**Nominating:** The committee has met and a presentation the slate will be recommended at the May COA meeting with voting at the June meeting.

##### **• CHNA 15 (Community Health Network Area 15):**

This group is offering up to two Healthy Communities Grants of up to \$20,000 each for a project period of 18 months. This is new to the COA, but the Carlisle Board of Health is applying and the COA could be a collaborator. It was generally agreed that it would be a good idea to get involved, and David will look into the requirements.

The next COA Board meeting will be held on April 26, 2016 at 10:30AM in the Clark Room at Carlisle Town Hall. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Donna MacMullan and seconded by Gio DiNicola.

Kathy DeVivo-Ash  
COA Co-Secretary